

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----272200Z 017570 /45
O R 272017Z APR 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7755
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07283

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV WB GW US UK FR NATO
SUBJECT: NATO MINISTERIAL: COMMUNIQUE PASSAGE ON
BERLIN AND GERMANY

REFS: (A) STATE 91853; (B) BONN 7127

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP HAS REACHED AD REF
AGREEMENT TO A BERLIN PASSAGE FOR THE NATO COMMUNIQUE
WHICH WOULD EXPRESS MINISTERIAL AGREEMENT WITH THE
PROPOSED FOUR-POWER SUMMIT DECLARATION ON BERLIN.
WHILE AGREEING TO THE TEXT, THE FRG REP QUESTIONS THE
PROPRIETY OF SUCH A PASSAGE, WHICH COULD NOT BE FED
INTO THE COMMUNIQUE DRAFTING EXERCISE UNTIL THE
ALLIANCE HAD BEEN MADE AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THERE
WAS TO BE A SUMMIT DECLARATION. ACTION
REQUESTED: GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

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1. AT THE APRIL 26 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE FRG REP
(HENZE) TABLED THE FOLLOWING DRAFT LANGUAGE ON BERLIN
FOR THE NATO MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE:

"WITH REGARD TO BERLIN MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THAT
IT IS OF IMPORTANCE FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
OF DETENTE IN EUROPE THAT THE RIGHTS AND

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FOUR POWERS RELATING TO ALL FOUR SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE CORRESPONDING, RELATED QUADRIpartite AGREEMENTS, DECISIONS AND PRACTICES ARE FULLY RESPECTED."

2. HENZE EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE NATO COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE SHORTER THAN USUAL IN MAY AND THAT THE BERLIN PASSAGE SHOULD THUS BE PROPORTIONATELY BRIEF. ANSWERING SUGGESTIONS FROM ALLIED REPS THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE SIMPLY TO HAVE THE MINISTERS REFER TO THE BERLIN DECLARATION WHICH IS TO BE ISSUED AFTER THE QUADRIpartite SUMMIT ON MAY 7 (REF A), HENZE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE TACTICALLY UNWISE TO ASK THE MINISTERS TO ENDORSE THE SUMMIT DECLARATION WITHOUT EXPRESSING ANY IDEAS OF THEIR OWN.

3. AT THE APRIL 27 BONN GROUP MEETING, BOTH US AND FRENCH REPS TABLED ALTERNATIVE DRAFTS WHICH WOULD ASSOCIATE THE MINISTERS WITH THE SUMMIT DECLARATION BUT ALSO EXTRACT FROM THAT DECLARATION THE KEY SENTENCE ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT AND DETENTE, SECURITY, AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE. THE UK REP (EYERS) AGREED THAT THE US AND FRENCH DRAFTS WERE PREFERABLE TO THE APPROACH SUGGESTED BY THE FRG.

4. HENZE, WHILE AGREEING WITH THE CONTENT, ELABORATED HIS POSITION FROM THE PREVIOUS DAY. THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAD BEEN INFORMED, HE SAID, THAT THE ENTIRE
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DRAFT OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE WAS TO BE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE MAY 7 SUMMIT MEETING. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO INFORM THE ALLIANCE EITHER THAT THEY WERE TO BE ASKED TO ENDORSE A SUMMIT DECLARATION CONCERNING WHICH THEY WERE UNINFORMED, OR TO BE TOLD THAT NO LANGUAGE ON BERLIN WOULD BE SUPPLIED UNTIL THE EVE OF THE MINISTERIAL.

5. ALL THREE ALLIED REPS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT THE PROBLEM WOULD BE MANAGEABLE. EVEN IF NATO HAD NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY INFORMED THAT THERE WAS TO BE A QUADRIpartite SUMMIT ON BERLIN, THEY WERE AWARE OF IT FROM PRESS ACCOUNTS (REF B). IT WOULD SEEM UNDERSTANDABLE FOR THE NAC TO BE INFORMED THAT THE BERLIN PASSAGE FOR THE COMMUNIQUE COULD NOT BE AGREED UNTIL AFTER THE QUADRIpartite SUMMIT.

6. IN ADDITION, BOTH THE US REP AND THE FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) WERE OF THE OPINION THAT IT WOULD SEEM

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O R 272017Z APR 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7756
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 07283

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AWKWARD IF THE NATO MINISTERS WERE TO TAKE NO
COGNIZANCE OF THE SUMMIT DECLARATION AND WERE, MOREOVER,
TO ATTEMPT TO SINGLE OUT ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE BERLIN
PROBLEM FOR DISCUSSION. THIS COULD SUGGEST THAT
THEY WERE NOT IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH ALL THAT HAD BEEN
SAID IN THE DECLARATION.

7. THE BONN GROUP THEREFORE REACHED AD REF AGREEMENT
ON THE FOLLOWING TEXT, ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ITS
USE WOULD DEPEND ON THE OPINION OF CAPITALS NOT ONLY
AS TO CONTENT BUT ALSO AS TO THE HANDLING OF TACTICAL
AND TIMING PROBLEMS:

"WITH REGARD TO GERMANY AND BERLIN, MINISTERS
FULLY ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THE VIEWS
EXPRESSED BY THE HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT
OF THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE,
AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN THEIR
STATEMENT OF MAY 9. THEY NOTED IN PARTICULAR
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THAT THE STRICT OBSERVANCE AND FULL
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT
OF 3 SEPTEMBER 1971 ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE
STRENGTHENING OF DETENTE, THE MAINTENANCE OF
SECURITY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION
THROUGHOUT EUROPE."

8. COMMENT: THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE DRAFT FOLLOWS
THE WORDING OF THE NATO DECLARATION ON BERLIN OF
DECEMBER 18, 1958. AS NOTED ABOVE, THE SECOND SENTENCE
IS BASED ON A PASSAGE FROM THE DRAFT SUMMIT
DECLARATION (REF A).

9. THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF
USNATO ON THE TACTICAL ASPECTS. WE ARE NOT REPEATING
THIS MESSAGE TO USNATO BECAUSE REFTel (A) WAS NOT
SENT THERE.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THE TEXT
IN PARA 7 ABOVE AND ON PROCEDURES FOR PROVIDING THE
TEXT TO THE REST OF THE ALLIANCE.
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Message Attributes

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